REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	21 December 2000
Name of applicant/court:	Andrew Robert Berry
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Pyrotechnics Cookbook
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Not Stated
Author:	BHU
Format:	Computer Printout
Country of Origin:	Not Stated
Language:	English

Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature: Running time:

Trailers: Running time:

Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The publication *Pyrotechnics Cookbook* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The *Pyrotechnics Cookbook* consists of 42 typed pages of A4 in the style of a manual or unbound book and begins with an introduction and list of contents. The manual appears to have been downloaded from the internet, and appears to have been written and compiled in the United States.

The majority of the manual is made up of detailed instructions about how to make a variety of bombs, explosives, incendiary devices and fuses. Some of the instructions use crude diagrams. It also includes detailed instructions about how to counterfeit money, and make fraudulent purchases using other people's credit cards. Detailed descriptions about how to pick locks and safes, break into cars, and make free toll-calls in the United States by deceiving American telephone companies are also given.

The instructions about the making explosives using ordinary household items can easily be used in New Zealand and are consequently very concerning. The manual provides relatively simple guidelines about refining ordinary products, such as bleach and garden fertiliser, and converting them into products such as plastic explosives. For many of these recipes some rudimentary chemical and technical knowledge and equipment is sometimes required. However, the skills needed for making other devices such as Molotov Cocktails and exploding light-bulbs are basic and accessible to a wide range of people.

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In this format the manual is intended to aid the construction of devices which have few if any legitimate purposes, and would probably be of considerable danger to the user and public alike as well as having a considerable anti-social value. Many of these devices can be used for an array of criminal acts as well as acts of terrorism. The manual therefore promotes and encourages criminal acts and acts of terrorism to such an extent and degree that its availability is likely to be injurious to the public good.

The provisions of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBR Act) have been taken into account in determining this classification. However, the extent, degree and manner in which the publication deals with matters of crime and violence, and in particular how it encourages criminal acts and acts of terrorism, is such that the *Pyrotechnics Cookbook* is objectionable. A classification of "objectionable" places a limit on the freedom of expression set out in s14 of the NZBR Act, but is a reasonable limit prescribed by law that can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society, given the nature of the harms involved.

OFLC Ref: 1858